Urea imports in value terms have come down since 1996-97. This is due to considerable increase in indigenous production of urea.

The policy of the Government is to achieve maximum degree of self-sufficiency in nitrogenous fertilizers with only margianl quantity of improts to fill the gap between demand and indigenous availability.

Unpunctuality of Delhi-Ghaziabad EMUs

*492. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seized of the difficulties being faced by approximately 1,50,000 rail commuters of Sahibabad due to unpunctuality in running of EMU trains from Ghaziabad to New Delhi—Shakurbasti and also due to inadequate number of EMU trains from Sahibabad / Ghaziabad to New Delhi;

(b) whether, in view of heavy increase in the number of rail users at Sahibabad / Ghaziabad stations, Government propose to introduce some new services to cater to the needs of commuters ane other passengers;

(c) if so, by when these services would be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) About 8,200 commuters board 29 pairs of EMU trains passing through Sahibabad every day. Introduction of additional services is an on-going process. However, at present, due to saturation of line capacity in Delhi Area and lack of other infrastructure, there is no proposal to add to the existing services since that, if restored to, may jeopardise the safety considerations on this critical section.

Water scarcity in Gir Sanctuary

*493. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an acute water scarcity threatens the lives of thousands of wild animals in Gir Sanctuary, and